Mr. Joseph Yannai
Registered # 78396-053
MDC Brooklyn
Metropolitan Detention Center
P.O. Box 329002
Brooklyn, NY 11232

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Edward R. Korman
Senior United States District Judge
United States District Court, Eastern District of NY
225 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, NY 11201

RE: US v Joseph Yannai
10CR594 (ERK)

Dear Judge Korman:

This past Friday, January 21, at 2:15 PM, one of my public defenders, Mr. Michael Schneider, sent an email to my wife informing her that the government asked for an adjournment of the hearing in front of your Honor that was to be held on the following Monday, January 24.

I am in jail while my bail hearing is pending for 6 months already. Most of these 6 months are a result of requests for adjournments by the government, and agreement to them by my attorneys, or requests from my public defenders for adjournments which, of course, are agreed to by the government.

It is clear why the government is asking for the adjournments. With all its might, money, resources and number of attorneys that are assigned to my case (I have counted 5 so far), they could have done their job in even half the time. But one of the government's dirty tricks (and they have played several already in my case alone) is to break the spirit of the defendant. Prolonged jail time for a defendant awaiting bail is a sure way to break one's spirit. They will not break mine.

Unless attorneys from the public defenders, who are my lawyers, are working for the government, which I sincerely hope is not the case, it is difficult to understand their behavior. Among that behavior, their repeated requests for adjournments or agreement to them, while I'm in jail. Especially with regard to this last adjournment, after I instructed them not to ask for any adjournment and not to agree to any such request of the government.

I don't understand why my attorneys show such an unmindful attitude towards their client. I'm starting to think that whatever is being said about public defenders is right.

I no longer wish to be represented by Ms. Deirdre von Dornum and Mr. Michael Schneider or any other attorney from the public defenders and, at least for now, I would like to be pro se.

I, therefore, request that your Honor will release Ms. Deirdre von Dornum and Mr. Michael Schneider from their duty to represent me and to instruct them to turn over all materials regarding my case to me.

I also request that your Honor will conduct the hearing that was originally scheduled for January 24, 2011, at the earliest possible date, preferably during the week of January 24.

Very truly yours,

Joseph Yannai POA Elena Fusillo

Dictated to me by Mr. Joseph Yannai
POA Elena Fusillo